

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00
EB-07 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09 OES-07
PA-02 PRS-01 USIE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00
SP-02 L-03 IO-13 INRE-00 /086 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CAN:JHROUSE,JR.:CLJ
APPROVED BY EUR/CAN:JHROUSE,JR.
-----161949Z 024437 /64

O 161814Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 111879

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SENV, CA, US

SUBJECT: NAVIGATIONAL BUOY OFF MACHIAS SEAL ISLAND

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE ON ABOVE SUBJECT PREPARED
FOR CONTINGENCY USE ONLY. THE QUESTION DID NOT ARISE AT
THE DEPARTMENT'S MID-DAY PRESS BRIEFING, MAY 16.

2. BEGIN TEXT --

QUESTION: CANADA HAS PLACED A NAVIGATIONAL BUOY IN WATERS
OFF MACHIAS SEAL ISLAND. DOES THE UNITED STATES PLAN TO DO
ANYTHING ABOUT IT?

ANSWER: CANADA PLACED THE BUOY IN THIS AREA OF CONTESTED
SOVEREIGNTY ON MAY 12 AFTER THE U.S. HAD NOTIFIED THE
CANADIAN GOVERNMENT OF OUR INTENTION OF PLACING A BUOY THERE.
THE DEPARTMENT HAS FORMALLY PROTESTED THIS ACTION AND
EXPRESSED REGRET THAT CANADA ACTED UNILATERALLY WITHOUT
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PRIOR CONSULTATION. WE HAVE EMPHASIZED THAT THE CANADIAN
ACTION HAS NO EFFECT ON THE LEGAL POSITIONS OF THE TWO
GOVERNMENTS AND RESTATED THE U.S. CLAIM OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER
THE ISLANDS. WE ARE CONTINUING TO REVIEW THE SITUATION.

THE U.S. OBJECTIVE HAS BEEN AND REMAINS TO ENSURE THE SAFE
NAVIGATION OF THESE WATERS WHICH ARE FREQUENTED BY

AMERICAN VESSELS. WE HAVE NO DESIRE TO EXASPERBATE THE
SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE WITH CANADA. NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADA
TO RESOLVE THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES AND FISHERIES QUESTIONS
IN THE GULF OF MAINE ARE SLATED TO RESUME IN THE VERY NEAR
FUTURE. -- END TEXT.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, TERRITORIAL WATERS, PRESS RELEASES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NAVIGATIONAL AIDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JHROUSE, JR.:CLJ
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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SAS ID: 2502060
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAVIGATIONAL BUOY OFF MACHIAS SEAL ISLAND
TAGS: SENV, CA, US
To: OTTAWA
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vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c94cbe92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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